

CHAPTER NO. 130

HOUSE BILL NO. 676

By Representatives Williams, Tindell, Armstrong, Larry Turner, Stulce, Ferguson, Caldwell, Winningham, Fraley, Hargrove, McDonald, Bone, Lewis, Hood, Eckles, Robinson, Arriola, Odom, Pruitt, Sherry Jones West, Sands, McMillan, Rinks, Kisber, Ridgeway, Maddox, Pinion, Ronnie Cole, Brenda Turner, Cooper, Lois DeBerry, Brooks, Langster, Fitzhugh, White, Dunn, Jackson, Davidson and Mr. Speaker Naifeh

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 1240

By Senators Haynes, Cooper, Burks, Rochelle, Graves

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1, to enact the "Tennessee Literacy Initiative Act of 1999".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1, is amended by adding a new part as follows:

Section 49-1-901. This part shall be known and may be cited as the "Tennessee Literacy Initiative Act of 1999".

Section 49-1-902. It is the policy of this State that local education agencies and the Department of Education move toward the goal of every public school student being able to read at an appropriate level before being promoted beyond the third grade.

Section 49-1-903. (a) The Office of Education Accountability in the Office of the Comptroller, with the assistance of the Tennessee Department of Education and the State Board of Education shall evaluate the reading proficiency of Tennessee's elementary schoolchildren and shall make recommendations to ensure that each child can read at an appropriate level before leaving the third grade.

(b) The report shall include any relevant test data from Tennessee and shall include a listing of all pilot projects and grants administered by the Department of Education that promote literacy in Tennessee's K-12 public schools. The report shall also include information on other states' efforts to increase reading proficiency in grades K-6.

(c) The office of education accountability shall issue its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than November 1, 1999.

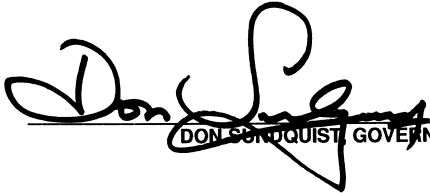
SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 3, 1999


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 12th day of May 1999


DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR